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PRESIDENT ATTENDS GROUNDBREAKING AT CIA

May 24, 1984

PRESS RELEASE

President Reagan and Vice President Bush visited the Headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency this morning to participate in the groundbreaking ceremony for an addition to CIA's Headquarters building at its compound in Langley, Virginia. Construction of the building will enable a consolidation of CIA people who are presently scattered throughout the greater metropolitan Washington area. The new facility will add about 1.1 million square feet to the existing Headquarters.

The President traveled to and from CIA Headquarters by White House helicopter and was greeted at the CIA helipad by Director of Central Intelligence William J. Casey. After a brief indoor meeting with Agency officials, the President moved outside to address a large audience of employees and assembled guests. Following his remarks, he was joined for the groundbreaking by the Vice President; Director Casey; Deputy Director John McMahon; Senator John Chafee, representing the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence; Virginia Senator John Warner; Representative Edward P. Boland, Chairman, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence; and Congressman Frank Wolf. The President turned over the first shovelful of dirt to mark the groundbreaking and to commence the construction of the new facility, which is expected to take about three years.

The President departed shortly before noon.

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HEADQUARTERS BUILDING



BACKGROUND Designed in mid-1950s by New York firm of Harrison and Abramovitz, designers of the United Nations building. Located about eight miles from downtown Washington, the building was envisioned by the then Director of Central Intelligence, Allen W. Dulles, as having the atmosphere of a college campus.

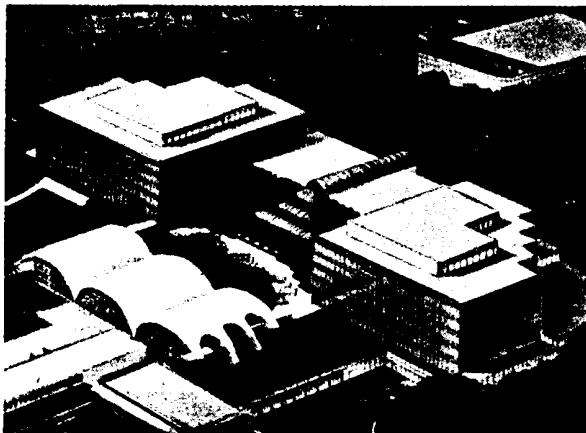
CONSTRUCTION Began October 1957, completed November 1963. Cornerstone laid November 3, 1959. Georgia concrete and marble used in main lobby and corridor.

SPACE Building consists of 1,000,000 square feet. Building and grounds comprise 219 acres.

LIBRARY Research library available to Agency personnel only. 60,000 catalogued titles; 102,000 volumes; 1,700 newspaper and journal subscriptions. Participates in inter-library loans with other libraries in United States. Emphasis is on basic and current information about foreign countries including a selection of foreign newspapers, telephone directories, diplomatic lists, dictionaries and encyclopedias.

ART WORK Selected and hung by CIA Fine Arts Committee. Collection on first floor loaned by Arlington, Virginia, financier Vincent Melzac, a former Director of the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D.C. Majority of collection is abstract, with emphasis on color studies.

HEADQUARTERS EXPANSION



BACKGROUND Designed by Detroit architectural and engineering firm of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls to be in harmony with the existing Headquarters Building while projecting a character of its own. The new 7-story structure will be joined to the west side of the current building. Included in the project is the construction of a security checkpoint, 3-level parking deck, renovation of the powerhouse, and improved roadways.

CONSTRUCTION Beginning in the spring of 1984, construction will take 40 months. Occupancy is to begin in July of 1987. Salient features include two 7-story office towers connected by a 4-story podium containing technical support facilities and an employee services concourse.

SPACE The building will consist of 1,100,000 gross square feet, providing the Agency with over 850,000 square feet of usable operational space.